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HALESWORTH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

SURVEYOR/PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1959

MINISTRY OF HEALTH

Medical Officer of Health. H.E. NUTTEN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Surveyor/Public Health Inspector. F.W.Y. BUCKLEY, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H., M.Inst.P.H.E., M.Inst.B.E.

HALESWORTH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

H.E. NUTTEN,
Medical Officer of Health.

To: The Chairman and Members of the
Halesworth Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for 1959.

The population of 2,350, as estimated by the Registrar General, is the same as for the previous year.

There were no deaths of infants under one year of age. The Maternal Mortality rate was again Nil.

The adjusted Death Rate is less than the Maternal average. The adjusted Birth Rate is, this year, higher than the figure for England and Wales. There were 37 live births in 1959, compared with only 26 in 1958.

Two cases were added to the Tuberculosis register during the year, and five were removed leaving a total of 15 on the register at the 31st December, 1959.

Altogether the year has been most satisfactory from a Public Health point of view.

The information in this Report on food premises, shops, Factories, housing etc., is compiled by your Public Health Inspector to whom I am indebted.

I have the honour to be,
Your obedient Servant,

H.E. NUTTEN,

Medical Officer of Health.

Town Hall,
Halesworth,
Suffolk.

Telephone: Halesworth 3162.

23rd May, 1960.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres)	1,107
Registrar-General's estimate of population (mid-1959)..	2,350
Number of inhabited houses	768
Rateable Value	£30,597
Product of Penny Rate	£118

VITAL STATISTICS

	Halesworth Urban District.	England and Wales
LIVE BIRTHS:		
Number	37	-
Rate per 1,000 population	15.7	16.5
ILLEGITIMATE LIVE BIRTHS per cent of total live births.	8.1	+
STILL BIRTHS:		
Number	1	-
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births.	26.3	20.7
TOTAL LIVE AND STILL BIRTHS:	38	-
INFANT DEATHS (deaths under 1 year):	Nil	-
INFANT MORTALITY RATES:		
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	Nil	22.0
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	Nil	+
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	Nil	+
NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE (deaths under 4 weeks per 1000 total live births)	Nil	15.8
EARLY NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)	Nil	+
PERINATAL MORTALITY RATE (still births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births)	Nil	+
MATERNAL MORTALITY (including abortion)		
Number of deaths	Nil	-
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	Nil	0.38

Live Births

	Male	Female	Total
Total	18	19	37
Legitimate	17	17	34
Illegitimate...	1	2	3

Still Births

	Male	Female	Total
Total...	-	1	1
Legitimate	-	1	1
Illegitimate..	-	-	-

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age

	Male	Female	Total
Total...	-	-	-
Legitimate	-	-	-
Illegitimate..	-	-	-

Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age

	Male	Female	Total
Total...	-	-	-
Legitimate	-	-	-
Illegitimate..	-	-	-

Deaths of Infants under 1 week of age

	Male	Female	Total
Total...	-	-	-
Legitimate	-	-	-
Illegitimate..	-	-	-

Deaths - All ages

	Male	Female	Total
Deaths - All ages	12	7	19

Rates

	Halesworth Urban District	England and Wales
Illegitimacy rate (per 1,000 live births) ...	81.0	+
Adjusted Birth Rate	18.2	-
Death rate per 1,000 estimated population ...	8.0	11.6
Adjusted Death Rate..	7.1	-

Comparability Factor (Births) 1.16
Comparability Factor (Deaths) 0.89

+ Figures not yet available.

Causes of Death

	Male	Female	Total
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory..	-	-	-
2. Tuberculosis, other..	-	-	-
3. Syphilitic disease...	-	-	-
4. Diphtheria.	-	-	-
5. Whooping Cough.	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal infections...	-	-	-
7. Acute poliomyelitis..	-	-	-
8. Measles..	-	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases.	-	-	-
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	-	-	-
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	1	-	1
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast.	-	1	1
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus.	-	1	1
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	3	2	5
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia.	-	-	-
16. Diabetes.	-	-	-
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	1	-	1
18. Coronary disease, angina...	3	2	5
19. Hypertension with heart disease..	-	-	-
20. Other heart disease..	1	-	1
21. Other circulatory diseases.	-	-	-
22. Influenza	-	-	-
23. Pnuemonia	-	-	-
24. Bronchitis	-	-	-
25. Other diseases of respiratory system...	-	-	-
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-	-	-
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-	-
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	-	-	-
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	-	-	-
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion..	-	-	-
31. Congenital malformations...	-	-	-
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases.	1	1	2
33. Motor Vehicle accidents	-	-	-
34. All other accidents..	2	-	2
35. Suicide..	-	-	-
36. Homicide and operations of war...	-	-	-
	12	7	19

ADJUSTED BIRTH AND DEATH RATE : COMPARABILITY FACTOR

Local birth rates are expressed in terms of population. These populations are estimated by the Registrar General and comprise persons of all ages, including those who have no influence on the birth rate. These latter do, however, affect the birth rate in that a high proportion of them in a populations tends to lower, and a small proportion tends to raise the true rate. The size of this proportion will vary in different areas and, therefore, the elimination or standardization of such a factor will give a truer comparison between areas.

The Registrar General issues a comparability factor on these lines. Multiplication of the crude birth rate of an area by the comparability factor gives the adjusted birth rate and can be compared with the crude rate for England and Wales.

The comparability factor for deaths is obtained in a similar way to the above. The factors for certain areas, where rapid increase or reduction in the population materially affects its comparison by sex and age groups, are also adjusted on that account. Death rate area comparability factors are adjusted to take account of the presence of any residential institutions in each area. Birth rate area comparability factors are also adjusted to take account of the presence of sterile populations in institutions for the mentally ill or mentally deficient.

Table showing the more important causes of deaths, Numbers and Percentages.

Cause of Death.	No. of Deaths.		Percentage	
	1958	1959	1958	1959
Diseases of circulatory system	14	6	66.66	31.52
Vascular lesions of nervous system	2	1	9.54	5.26
Malignant diseases	2	8	9.54	42.10
Pnuemonia and Bronchitis	-	-	-	-
Influenza	-	-	-	-
All other causes	3	4	14.28	21.05
Total	21	19	100.02	99.93

In 1959 78% of all deaths fell under the first three headings.

Comparative Statistics

	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
Population.	2171	2169	2186	2249	2270	2310	2310	2330	2350	2350
No. of Inhabited Houses	890	742	772	810	830	806	745	761	752	768
No. of Live births ...	29	23	34	35	29	49	38	45	26	37
British Rate (crude)...	13.4	10.6	15.5	15.5	12.8	21.2	16.5	19.3	11.0	15.7
No. of Still Births....	2	1	0	1	0	4	1	0	0	1
Maternal Mortality ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Infant Mortality rate..	0	43.5	45.4	142.8	0	20.4	0	0	0	0
(No.of Deaths)... ...	(-)	(1)	(2)	(5)	(-)	(1)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)
No. of deaths (all ages)	27	40	30	30	30	18	23	25	21	19
Death Rate (Crude) ...	12.4	18.4	13.7	13.3	13.2	7.8	9.9	10.7	8.9	8.0

Infectious Diseases

Number of all confirmed cases of infectious and other notifiable diseases notified during the year 1959 accordin to age and sex.

	Acute Pneumonia			Puerperal Pyrexia	
Age	Male	Female	Total	Female	Total
Under 1	-	-	-	-	-
1 -	-	-	-	-	-
2 -	-	-	-	-	-
3 -	-	-	-	-	-
4 -	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 9	-	-	-	-	-
10 - 14	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 24	1	-	1	1	1
25 - 44	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 64	-	-	-	-	-
65 or over	-	-	-	-	-
Total	1	-	1	1	1

Grand Total = 2.

Diseases notified during the year, classified according to month of occurence

Month	Acute Pneumonia	Puerperal Pyrexia
January	-	-
February	-	-
March	-	-
April	-	-
May	-	-
June	-	-
July	-	-
August	1	1
September	-	-
October	-	-
November	-	-
December	-	-
TOTAL	1	1

Grand Total = 2

Diphtheria Immunisation:

In Halesworth Urban District in 1959, 19 primary immunisations were carried out by the child Welfare Clinic and General Practitioners. The ages of the children immunised were as follows:

Year of Birth	Numbers Immunised
1959	3
1958	10
1957	2
1956	-
1955	1
1954	-
1953	3
1952	-
1951	-
1950	-
1949	-
1948	-
1945-1947	-
Total	19

During the same year, 20 booster doses were given.

Primary immunisations:

1958	39
1957	32
1956	12
1955	23

TUBERCULOSIS

	Males		Females		Total
	Pulmonary	Non Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non Pulmonary	
No. of cases on the Register at 31st December, 1958.	9	2	4	3	18
No. of cases added during the year	-	-	2	-	2
No. of cases removed during the year	2	1	2	-	5
No. of cases on the Register at 31st December, 1959.	7	1	4	3	15

Cases added to the Register			Cases removed from the Register		
New Notifications	=	1	Recovered	=	3
Inward transfers	=	1	Died	=	-
			Removed to other areas	=	2
Total	=	2	Total	=	5

Cases on the Register, according to age and sex at 31st December, 1959.

Age Group	Male	Female	Total
Under 5 years...	-	-	-
5 - 14 years...	1	-	1
15 - 24 years...	-	2	2
25 - 44 years...	4	2	6
44 - 64 years...	3	3	6
65 years and over	-	-	-
Age unknown	-	-	-
Total	8	7	15

REPORT OF THE SURVEYOR/PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1959.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my report for the year 1959.

WATER.

Water is supplied by the Halesworth Urban District Council and a supplementary supply is available up to 25,000 gallons per day from the Walpole bores of the Blyth Rural District Council. The average daily consumption for the whole year was 79,000 gallons. It has been noted that in the year under review, 38 households paid a hose rate and that during the hot dry summer of the year, water consumption increased very considerably. It is for report that without the supplementary supply from the Blyth Rural District Council there were long periods during the dry spell when it would have been impossible to maintain normal supplies. The supply is pure and wholesome, of the highest standard of purity, and is suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The Sewerage Works at Bramfield Road continue to operate satisfactorily and work of maintenance has continued throughout the year.

Over the past five years the number of houses which were equipped with pail closets have been reduced considerably. There remains however, a comparatively small number of properties which, by reason of the general condition of the property or through lack of availability of a sewer, are still equipped with pail closets. Such conditions will continue until either the properties are demolished or until sewerage facilities are available.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

A weekly collection of refuse is made by the Council employing two men and one refuse waggon. Disposal is by means of controlled tipping at Cookley.

Regular visits to the tip are made by the Council's rodent operative and necessary works of disinfestation carried out.

The sewers are inspected at regular intervals for investigating possible infestation by rats. No infestation has been found.

Street Cleaning is carried out daily and storm water gullies are emptied at regular intervals.

RODENT CONTROL.

One part time operator is employed by the Authority. There are 768 houses and 207 business premises in the Council's area and complaints have been dealt with immediately. As stated investigation of the Town sewers has failed to show any trace of infestation.

DISINFESTATION.

There have been two complaints of fleas and two complaints of cockroaches. These have been dealt with.

It will be remembered that in my previous report it was stated that considerable concern was felt at the increasing number of complaints of infestation with woodworm. At that time the heavy cost and the length of time required to carry out proper treatment of such infestations was particularly stressed. In these circumstances it is felt that initial action by householders themselves in inspecting their property and carrying out simple works of disinfestation on the first appearance of the woodworm would result not only in the saving of property and heavy cost of disinfestation but also prevent the considerable inconvenience which they would be subjected to in the event of full scale disinfestation operations having to be carried out.

A considerable amount of work had to be carried out last year in the eradication of wasp's nests by Council employees.

ICE CREAM.

There are 10 premises registered for the sale of Ice Cream in the area all of which sell pre-packed Ice Cream. There are no premises registered for the manufacture of Ice Cream.

Four premises are registered for the manufacture of sausages and sausage meat.

FOOD PREMISES.

Fifty-one inspections of food premises have been carried out during the year under review, and two premises were found to be in some respects unsatisfactory. Both these cases have since been dealt with informally and are now satisfactory. It is pleasing to report the co-operation which has been forthcoming from the very large proportion of people in the Town who are actively concerned in the food premises within the district and it should be noted that employers and employees alike are becoming increasingly conscious, not only of the requirements of the Food and Drugs Acts, but of the protection to themselves and the public which the implimentation of these Acts confer.

MEAT INSPECTION.

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part.

	Cattle excluding cows.	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs
Number killed	69	-	-	28	178
Number inspected	69	-	-	28	178
Whole Carcases condemned: Tuberculosis.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other Causes	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned: Tuberculosis.	5	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other causes.	6	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

It will be noted that there is a decrease in the number of animals killed and inspected during the year under review. All slaughtering has been carried out at two small slaughterhouses in the Town which supply only the Butchers Shops of their Owners. These slaughterhouses, whilst being maintained in a very clean condition, are small and would need considerable alteration and consequent expense to conform to the requirements of the Slaughterhouses Act, 1958, and it would seem inevitable that unless the money and necessary sites are forthcoming that the works of slaughtering must become more centralised in order to conform to the requirements of the Act, thus spreading the cost between greater numbers of Butchers.

HOUSING.

During the year 51 houses were inspected, 10 of which were found to be unsatisfactory in some respect. As a result of informal action the necessary repairs have been carried out at each of these houses, whilst repairs were carried out to one additional property which was outstanding at the time of my last Annual Report.

Clearance Orders have been secured in the case of 12 properties and two properties have been demolished under Clearance Orders. Closing Orders were made in respect of three properties. Three families have been re-housed from unfit houses.

Standard Improvement Grants have been made in respect of two properties, and one Discretionary Improvement Grant has been made.

Twelve new houses have been built by private enterprize.

FACTORIES.

There are 37 premises which have been registered under the Factories Act during the period under review. No defects were found upon inspection of these.

Factories Act, 1937 to 1959

PART 1

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to Health.

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of Inspections (3)	Number of Written notices (4)	Number of Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.....	7	7	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.....	28	30	Nil	Nil
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (Excluding out-workers' premises)..	2	8	Nil	Nil
Total.....	37	45	Nil	Nil

2. Cases in which Defects were found:

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found: Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspector. (4)	Referred By H.M. Inspector (5)	Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
Want of cleanliness (S.1).	NIL				
Overcrowding (S.2).					
Unreasonable temperature (S.3).					
Inadequate ventilation (S.4).					
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6).					
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) (a) Insufficient. (b) Unsuitable or defective (c) Not separate for sexes.					
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)					

Part VIII of the Act.

Sections 110 and 111 - A Nil Return.

I am, Sirs,
Your obedient Servant,

F.W.Y. BUCKLEY,

Surveyor/Public Health Inspector.